

## Villa Dead Again.

Americans Kill Many Evidently Un-Armed Mexicans at Parral.

It is almost beyond belief that a government and its news service could be so hypocritical and deceptive, yet I want you to keep an eye on Mexico and see who it is we are after. A great deal of noise is being made about being "after Villa," but the Kicker told you last week to watch and see if we didn't get Carranza—if we get anybody.

From the very start the Kicker has not had the slightest notion that this government wanted Villa. There is every reason to believe that the Columbus affair was planned and understood, and that its purpose was to give this country an excuse to invade Mexico.

The news from Mexico is very unreliable and conflicting, yet one who understands how, can get pretty close to the truth. Therefore let us examine some of the admitted facts.

The Villa band raided Columbus without ANY investigation of any sort the Washington government ordered out troops to cross the border and invade Mexico—WHICH WAS EQUIVALENT TO A DECLARATION OF WAR!

Of course the newspapers then lied under a full head of steam and told us that Carranza had agreed to it all and that his forces would co-operate with ours. Then, the next day, the newspapers would lie some more and say that Carranza was threatening us and would co-operate with Villa.

The truth is that there is more brains in the Carranza cabinet than in our own. Carranza knew that he could not successfully fight the United States, just as well as he knew that the Mexican revolutionists had millions of sympathizers in this country. Therefore the only thing he could do was to sit tight until something happened—until the purpose of the invasion revealed itself.

And it happened. Our troops are reported to have killed 150 unarmed citizens—not soldiers, mind you—in the Mexican city of Parral. The press dispatches did not say that the killed were unarmed, but circumstances prove it. The report said there was BUT ONE AMERICAN KILLED. Had the Mexicans been armed, or had they expected trouble, the result would have been different.

A later report gives the number of Americans killed as five.

It may be a month before a small per cent of our people get the truth about this affair. They will read only capitalist papers which will never get it. To me it appears as just such another stunt as when we sailed into Vera Cruz under the pretense of wanting Huerta to salute our flag. The people of Vera Cruz knew nothing about it and were taken unawares. Schools were in session, and when the teachers heard the firing they dismissed school so the children could go to their parents. On their way home some of the little tots were shot and killed by our brave heroes.

Now let us examine this alleged Villa hunt. On March 9 Villa and his bunch of a few hundred men were in Columbus where Col. Slocum was stationed with 300 men. At different points along the border almost the entire U. S. army was stationed to prevent just what Villa did.

Without any official investigation the Washington government immediately ordered the pursuit of Villa. I don't think there has been any official report of the Columbus affair to the war department to this day.

But Villa gets away. How? He cannot be located. Why? Was there any time during the five years of Mexican revolution that Villa's whereabouts were unknown for so much as a week?

They tell us that he has fled to the mountains and that he is so familiar with them that his hiding places cannot be located. These mountains with which Villa is so familiar are in Northern Mexico. Then what are our troops doing at Parral, 370 miles from our border?

Then let us look at it in another light. It might be possible for one man to hide in the mountains for some time. But how about an army? We have just as high and just as rugged mountains in this country as in Mexico. Do you believe that an army of several hundred men could hide anywhere in the United States without leaving the least trail or trace as to their whereabouts?

Under the pretense of surrounding Villa, our troops are being scattered all over Mexico WITH HEAVY ARTILLERY. Who ever heard of anybody chasing a mountain bandit with heavy artillery?

But the Parral massacre has given the Carranza government the opportunity to speak, and the Washington government must now show its hand. In a very polite but firm note the Carranza government calls attention to the presence of this heavy artillery and its utter uselessness in the so-called "punitive expedition," and requests that the American forces be immediately withdrawn, except 1,000 cavalry which may continue the pursuit of Villa—if it

is really Villa they are after. This means a show-down. And the Washington government spatters much.

It isn't as easy to benevolently assimilate weaker people now as it was 17 years ago. Many of our people are doing a little thinking. Then the blowing up of the Maine by agents of the Plunderbund, as many believe, and a concerted yelp, the next morning, by the capitalist press, set the whole country aflame.

"Providence," and "Destiny," and "the White man's burden" all demanded that we remove the yoke of Spain from the oppressed Cubans and Filipinos. And after we, assisted by the Cubans and Filipinos had removed the Spanish yoke, we were horrified at the ungrateful allies who attempted to resist the careful adjustment of our own yoke.

In screaming headlines across the front page, Monday morning's kept newspapers announced that Ponce Villa was dead again.

This time they were sure had him—and the reports were generally credited as "official." And the minutest details were given as to how it all happened. Listen to this, taken from an El Paso dispatch:

"Villa's body was taken out of its lonely grave near San Francisco de Burja, and positively identified, according to numerous OFFICIAL and private messages. The bandit died from gangrene as a result of a wound in his left knee."

Then the dispatch went on to tell how it all happened. About three weeks ago Villa attempted to steal a pretty Mexican girl and the father shot him in the knee. The father was immediately shot and Villa got away with the girl, cursing the Americans, of course. Gangrene set in and Villa died.

Oh, it was a convincing story—one calculated to make Rubie sit up and listen. They even told how a native doctor probed and dug out the shattered bones, and how Villa didn't even grunt nor bawl a note. They told how Villa's leg swelled until he had to split his pants leg, and there was the swelled leg and split pants when they took him up out of the grave!

Who could doubt such an accurate story—unless he understood the liar? Villa was buried with his boots on, and the body was on its way to Jaurez under military escort, so that it could be identified by Americans.

Columns of such slush also appeared from Washington to the effect that semi-official news of the finding of Villa's body had been received there, and that if the body was positively identified as that of Villa, our troops would be immediately withdrawn.

I shall comment no further at this time. But I am convinced it is all a lie out of whole cloth. Tuesday morning's papers all but admitted it. They said the wires were down and they were unable to get any information, but that "the hopes of Villa's death dwindled."

There were two things just a little more conspicuous to me than any other else in Monday's pages of hog-wash. One was that Villa was continually cursing the Americans. The other was that the Washington authorities would withdraw the troops from Mexico if the body proved to be that of Villa.

Next week I will tell you the reason for trying to impress these upon the American people.

WORK BUT CAN'T VOTE.

Washington, April 15.—Government statistics available today show that there are more than 8,000,000 women workers in the United States.

There are 263,315 stenographers and typewriters, 14,081 women linotype operators, 2,530,846 domestics, 1,820,980 factory and mill girls, 76,508 trained nurses, 111,117 midwives, 2,000,000 women farm laborers, 100,000 women bakers, 8,219 telegraph operators, 88,262 hotel girls.

Eighty per cent of our teachers are women, also two-thirds of our cotton mill workers, one-third of hat, suit and overall makers, one-fifth of our tailors, one-third of our shoe-makers.

Women have been found working before the flaming furnaces of blast furnaces of Pennsylvania.

AMONG THE BARBARIANS. The wives of the two Hubbard men, federal prisoners held in the city jail here, visited their husbands in the jail this morning for several hours. Both of the women have young babies, each less than a year old, and are said to be in poor circumstances.—Cape Republican.

Thus works "the law." The innocent are usually the greatest sufferers. The so-called criminals are taken care of. They get food, clothing and shelter. But the mothers with infants in their arms—who cares about them?

The Kicker prints what other papers must suppress—or move.



SOCIALISM.

CAPITALISM.

## THE VICE PROBE.

The good and pious and law-abiding people tell us that Socialism is immoral, approves of free love and is against religion, the home and marriage. And there are millions of duped people who believe this.

Unfortunately for the good and the pious and the law-abiding people, an effort is being pretty generally made by members of the capitalist class itself to locate the cause of vice, immorality and "free love." And it invariably turns out that the desire for PROFITS is at the bottom and that it is the "better class" who get the profits and are, therefore, responsible for the immorality and irreligion.

Boston is the latest city to undergo the activities of a vice commission. There, as elsewhere, it was found that the "better class" are near relatives to the hog. In commenting on the findings of the vice investigators, The Survey says of the "respectable" people of Boston:

"It found them, in unexpected numbers and in high stations, mixing lust and the profits from lust with business and with pleasure. It found innumerable men seated at their desks in private offices, seducing the stenographers and other young girls who work for them."

"It found managers in stores making gifts to salesgirls and calling them dearie and sweetie. It found the traveling salesmen of these same stores making nobody knows how many advances to no-body knows how many different girls in the stores' employ. It found men arranging tempting dates with the girls who take their numbers at the telephone switchboard."

"It watched men preying upon waitresses in hotels and restaurants. It located them sitting across from pretty maidens in 100 public establishments, often with no other purpose than to have their hands held, or their arms leaned on, or to arrange rendezvous."

"It found them taking women married and single, to their private offices at night for immoral purposes. And, of course, it found them plentifully in the character of rich men—bankers, lawyers, business men—supporting one or more mistresses."

"And it found the supposedly respectable women of Baltimore, in numbers less large, but large enough to cause even greater surprise than the numbers of men, soliciting the attention of these men, meeting the men half way or succumbing in the end to their amorous advances. It found many girls—young, pretty, fresh—subjected to undue pressure from employers and male employees; sometimes the girls were able to resist this pressure, but often they were blinded by gifts and promises and their resistance was broken down. It found girls completing an evening's amusement by visits to furnished rooms and then lying to their parents at home."

"All this the commission found. NOT with respect to the men and women whom everybody knew to be immoral, but with respect to the people whom nobody knew to be immoral."

"Surrounding all this clandestine illicitness, the commission found a gigantic and recognized machinery of immorality, profiting from lust and protecting it."

"Hotels were found that either encouraged or winked at the illicit use of their rooms. Cafes and restaurants revealed themselves in large numbers as stamping-grounds of solicitation. And everywhere there were saloons supported in part upon the proceeds of licentiousness."

Over and above all this the commission found the sinister colossus of POLITICAL PROTECTION."

JOHN, THE BAPTIST. Denver, April 14.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has agreed to contribute toward the erection of a Roman Catholic church in Berwind Colo., on the coal camps of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company. Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

## AT IT AGAIN.

There is no doubt about it—the American people like to be humbugged. This being true, the men in high official position see to it that the people get a full dose of it about as often as they can stand it.

A dispatch from Washington tells us that Standard Oil is to be "busted" again. About two years ago this octopus was completely flattened out, and busted beyond recognition by what passes for the Department of Justice at Washington. But the smash had a peculiar effect. Several million dollars were added to the price of oil stock—indicating that Standard Oil had been busted in exactly the way it wanted to be.

Now the Senate has ordered an "investigation" of gasoline prices. But Chas. B. Martin, of Chicago, announces that he has already investigated, and has made the remarkable discovery that "the Supreme court decision dissolving the Standard Oil Co. was ineffective." Great discovery!

Marshall reported to the Department in Justice that the various branches of the Standard Oil Co. are working in perfect harmony and control the price of oil. For a bone-head, that is another great discovery.

Therefore the Department of Justice refuses to comply with the senate's demand to investigate, and, for campaign purposes, will stage a big play in court to again make Rockefeller see visions of the poor house.

I wish I could get my friend Eli Ake, of the Ironton Register, to reproduce that story about his buying such cheap oil last fall as a result of the workings of a Democratic administration that refused to tolerate trusts. It was a pretty picture, Bro. Ake drew of the blessings of having such a man as Mr. Wilson at the wheel. But I don't believe you could get him to print it now—even at "legal rates."

## THERE'S MONEY IN IT.

Whatever pays is all right. If there is anything more cruel, inhuman and immoral than the wholesale slaughter of human beings I never heard of it. But the press, the pulpit and the other spokesmen for the profit-mongers see it differently—or pretend to. The pious frauds tell us that "the powers that be are ordained of God," and therefore, the wholesale slaughter in Europe is according to God's will. The press and other lick-spittles of the ruling class agree that war is a good thing and that we ought to prepare and get some of it. But they don't tell you that the only "good" that comes from war and preparations for war is sucked up by the traffickers in war supplies.

Nineteen corporations had on hand at the close of 1915 a total of \$248,000,000, not including investments, according to figures in The Wall Street Journal.

The United States Steel corporation heads the list with \$110,000,000 cash, and investments of \$77,480,000, an increase of nearly \$54,000,000 over the previous year.

Don't forget that Uncle Andy Carnegie, the great peace angel, is in the steel business and is getting his rake-off. Uncle Andy is a whole peace society within himself. He puts up the "dough" for the Hague peace parleys.

"Profits of the steel, copper, sugar and various other industrial and railroad companies will run into billions of dollars this year," says the Wall Street Journal in commenting on the situation.

"And it is safe to assume that a large part of this golden harvest will find its way into the great security markets."

RESULTS OF WAR. San Francisco, April 11.—When the steamer Chehalis sailed into a cove at Tahiti some time ago, Tahitian maidens swam out and begged the sailors to desert their ship and live there. Most of the men of Tahiti have gone to the war and it has become an "Adamless Eden." Passengers arriving here on the steamer Moana brought the story.

## THE COUNTRY EDITOR.

A number of country publications are permitting themselves to be dragged into the railroad and engagement controversy which in our opinion is very unwise for the reason that few country publishers have given the matter sufficient thought to enable them to form conclusive opinions, much less make assertive statements which are as apt to be wrong as right.—Morley Banner.

Yes, these country editors are entirely too frisky and are apt to bite off more than they can chew. To expect them to understand the difference between an eight hour and a ten-hour work-day is entirely too much.

The country editor should confine himself to the things he so thoroughly understands such as the tariff, finance, regional banks, farm credits, land banks, high cost of living, foreign relations, preparedness and the splendid qualities of an office-seeker who is able to put up the price of the announcement fee.

On such subjects he may speak with unquestioned authority—for he is as ignorant of them as is the public.

But when it comes to hours of labor—that's different. Any man who is capable of distinguishing between eight hours work and ten hours work would not long be content to remain a country editor—even with editorial mileage thrown in.

## SOME REAL JOKES.

The Kicker gets considerable amusement out of reading the factory editorials in the party organs. Here is one that has appeared and re-appeared in the Democratic organs for months and is taken from the Carthageville Democrat:

"We are still unable to find the \$7,000 calves \$15,000 cows, 3 cent hogs, 50 cent wheat and 10 cent corn. The Republican writers told us we'd have it. Wilson should be executed."

Now, the Carthageville Democrat is not dealing in calves, cows, hogs, corn or wheat. But it does deal in printer's material. In another column of the same issue I find this:

"Do you realize that all material used in printing have taken a aeroplane and everything is up in the air? In some parts of the business materials have already increased 100 per cent and are still soaring. The printing office of the country cannot bear this load of additional expense alone. If it is high prices they want, the cross-roads editors ought to be happy."

THE EASTER DATE.

Since I began to use my head a little, I have been puzzled as to why Good Friday and Easter fall on different dates each year. Good Friday is said to be the day on which Christ was crucified, and sometimes it happens in March and sometimes in April. So I looked the matter up and here is the explanation:

"Easter Sunday cannot happen earlier than March 22, nor later than April 25, but between those dates it has a range of 35 days. At the council of Nice, 325 A. D., it was agreed by the representatives present that from that time forward Easter should fall on the first Sunday after the full moon occurring on or next after March 21, and on every date between that and April 25; but it is only at long intervals of time that it occurs on its extreme dates."

REMOVE THE SHAMS. Chicago, April 13.—Short skirts are not immoral, because everyone knows anyway that a woman has legs.

This was the view expressed today by Miss Ruth Astor Noyes, prominent suffragist, here with the congressional union's party touring the suffrage states. "What if short skirts do show a woman's legs?" queried Miss Noyes. "Everyone knows we have legs. We want freedom in our walk and movements. Just as we want freedom in other things in life."

Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

## IN THE SOUTHEAST.

What the People are Doing in Other Counties that are Near.

On the train Saturday I met my old friend Joe Stubbs of Skokston. For many years Mr. Stubbs was "the brains" of the Skokston Mercantile Co., one of the largest and most successful business concerns in southeast Missouri—and he has made good. Twenty-five years ago he was a wage-slave, a clerk. And I was surprised at his knowledge of how "the system" works. Most business men do not understand it. That is why so many fail. But Joe and his knowledge, not from books, but from actual and long continued experience. As in any other business, the secret of successful merchandising lies in knowing every edge cut—no matter whom it may cut. Mr. Stubbs regards buying as a controlling factor. "Suppose we take clothing," said he, "the thing to know is where and how to buy. There are four or five large Jew concerns in the United States that sell about 25 per cent cheaper than the regular trade. The thing to do is to locate these and set them to competing for your order. In that way you get the lowest possible price. That is no doubt true. But the only possible way to concern another is to cut the labor cost. All other expenses must be practically the same. Hence 'berrain' at the consumers' end of the string means the sweat and blood of overworked and underpaid women and children at the other end. Is it worth the price? Yet that is the key to successful business under the competitive system."

There is nothing quite so important in present society as the fight against poverty and shame. The Jackson correspondent to the Cape Republican writes: "There seemed to be a special attraction in Jackson for the daimises of the demagogue of Cape Girardeau, as their trips over here become more frequent all the time. Yesterday for a while in the afternoon a lot of the peroxide and lead dress variety were here, headed by the old man that has made a fortune out of shame. Last night some more came over, accompanied by two of Skokston's Bear Brummeis. Some of these days some of Jackson's good citizens will get real angry and speak out in meeting and give a few names that will send some sports scuttling for cover." The last sentence is a joke. The fact that their names are withheld proves that the men are of the "respectable" class. And while the good citizens of Jackson may get angry and all that, yet the names of the offenders will never appear in print—so long as they are of the "better class." Only Rubie gets a column of notoriety and a jail sentence when he undertakes to speak after his better.

A L. Hannah, aged 24, an electrician, was electrocuted while repairing a live wire near White-water last week. The power to operate the ditch-machine on the ditch being dug along the northern border of Scott county, as furnished by the Electric Co. of Cape Girardeau, through a cable that runs along the line of the ditch. This cable was sometimes broken, and it was sometimes short-circuited, and a short-circuit was made about a mile apart, so the electrician could not be taken on for repairs. A break occurred Wednesday evening of last week and a man was sent back to the switch to turn off the current. A blast of the whistle was a signal to the man at the switch to turn on the current—that the repair work was done. On this occasion Hannah was at work when another crew working near by blew the six o'clock whistle for quitting time. The man at the switch mistook this as a signal to turn on the current and Hannah fell 25 feet to the ground—dead. The man at the switch did not know he had electrocuted his co-worker until he returned to the works.

There is nothing more disgusting to me than the slop and slobber the newspapers can get off over a marriage among the pastas one would think, or is expected to think that aristocracy is built of different material than ordinary people. One of these marriages occurred at the Cape last week, and the slop and slobber that filled the papers there for days was as sickening as the divorce cases in such circles are disgusting. After all, these folks are just human animals. The only difference between them and those that wear shoddy is hand-made. There is also another difference. They who wear shoddy earn their own living, while they who wear silks and diamonds live from the labor of others.

They haven't got race suicide down in Pemiscot county, yet there seems danger of depopulating the county. The sheriff took nine to the penitentiary last week. The Pemiscot colony at Jefferson City must be a whooper. Also church attendance must be on the increase down there, for they who are not sentenced to the pen are sentenced to go to church.

Judge Iyer must be a little inclined to be a sport. Anyway, the Kicker has a good opinion of him, for he appears to be human and does not try to disguise it. Last week, in the Federal court at Cape Girardeau, it took several days to try a suit of the Skokston Mercantile Co. against the Pierce Oil Co. for \$15,000 damages. The Mercantile company claimed that through the carelessness of an oil company agent, the oil house at Skokston was set on fire, which resulted in \$15,000 damages to the mercantile company. The jury could not agree and the result was a mistrial. Judge Iyer urged that the parties compromise, as the testimony was conflicting. "If you can't do it any other way," said the Judge, "you might try the way we used to do up in Pike county. Put it all on a game of seven up and let 'er go." The Judge was right. There is no more game of chance in seven up than there is in court—and it is a whole lot cheaper. Yet I noticed that Judge Iyer recommended a game of seven up for \$15,000, the marshal of Charlee rounded up a bunch of penny crap shooters.

Of course this is a free country. Anybody can see that. The Iron Mountain has made quite a change in their section employees the past week. Walter Bone, section foreman on the main line, was discharged last Friday and Monday morning Chas. Hustel, foreman on the Belmont branch section, was also released. Several of the section men have also been discharged. It has been stated that there are quite a number of section men up and down the line that are slated for release. No reason is given by the company, but the general opinion is that the discharges were brought about by the men joining the Brotherhood of Trackmen.

Farmington Times.—At the principal election in Farmington last week the Farmers' Union conducted a campaign to give the poor voters an opportunity to express their views on a number of questions of the privilege and the rights of the negroes. The Farmers' Union voted against women suffrage, but a majority of the white voters favored the proposition, which showed the popular feeling of the more intelligent and thinking class. Woman suffrage sentiment is growing.

Farmington Times.—Frank Malone stepped into Donaldson's restaurant at Elar River last Monday and ordered a lunch. Mr. Donaldson capriciously laid down a small sack of money, about \$100, behind the counter and shortly after stepped back into the kitchen. For a moment, Malone, taking advantage of the brief absence of the proprietor, lifted the sack and made a hasty get-away. It was not for 102 minutes, however, that he engaged his attention, for he was overhauled between Bismark and Irondale.

Last week a carload of dead chickens arrived at Delta. They had been shipped from Bertrand, Essex and Skokston in coops in a box car. The car door was jammed and some 600 chickens smothered to death. The remedy to such cases and animals in transportation is often fierce.

## RAILROAD RECEIVERSHIPS.

From the Milwaukee Leader. The United States Government is now operating 82 railways having a mileage of 41,988 miles and capitalized at \$2,264,000,000. These roads are being conducted by federal courts because of the failure of private operation.

Nominally these roads are operated by receivers because they are bankrupt. These receivers are appointed by federal courts and are under the direct supervision of the judges of these courts who are responsible for the operation of the roads.

No one has ever suggested that federal judges are selected because of their ability to operate railroads, although they are frequently chosen for their willingness to let the railroads operate them. Nevertheless whenever a railroad is looted by its owners or for any other reason fails to make a profit, it is handed over to a federal court for management.

The court operates the road until it is once more profitable and then returns it to the owners.

At the present time the mileage operated by the courts is greater than the total railway mileage of any other country in the world except European and Asiatic Russia combined. It is far greater than the amount operated by any nation in the world having government owned railroads.

Yet the wise men of business in this country never tire of warning of the danger of government owned and operated railways.

If you want the truth, you must read the unmuzzled Kicker. Stick to the unmuzzled Kicker.